Message Text

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ORIGIN DLOS-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 ACDA-07 AGRE-00 AID-05

CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00

DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-02

INR-07 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

NSF-01 OES-06 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAL-01 FEA-01 SIG-01 SAJ-01 /131 R

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APPROVED BY S/AL:TVLEARSON
D/LOS:AGJAMES
L/OES:BOXMAN
EA/IMS:WSSHEPPARD
EA/J:SMECTON
EUR/NE:SWWORREL
EUR/SOV:JLCOL BERT

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R 222044Z NOV 76 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY KUALA

TO AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS

SUBJECT: LOS: STRAITS OF MALACCA

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1. THE FOLLOWING PRESS REPORT HAS COME TO DEPARTMENT'S

ATTENTION REGARDING MALAYSIAN-USSR MEETING TO DISCUSS INTER ALIA STRAITS AND MARINE POLLUTION. QTE KUALA LUMPUR DOMESTIC SERVICE IN ENGLISH 1400 GMT 11 NOV 76 BK. THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, TENGKU ARHMAD RITHAUDDEEN, HELD TALKS IN KUALA LUMPUR TODAY WITH THE VISITING SOVIET DEPUTY MINISTER THE MINISTRY OF THE MARITIME FLEET, MR. VLADIMIR TIKHONOV. TENGKU ARHMAD RITHAUDDEEN, TOLD NEWSMEN LATER THEY EXCHANGED VIEWS ON THE USAGE OF THE MALACCA STRAIT. HE ALSO EXPLAINED THE VIEWS OF MALAYSIA AND INDONESIA AND THEIR DESIRE TO PREVENT THE WATERWAY FROM POLLUTION CAUSED BY OIL SPILLS FROM TANKERS. TENGKU RITHAUDDEEN SAID THEY ALSO DISCUSSED WAYS IN WHICH MALAYSIA AND THE SOVIET UNION COULD COOPERATE IN THE ECONOMIC FIELD, PARTICULARLY WITH REGARD TO PRIMARY COMMODITIES. UNQTE.

- 2. ACTION REQUESTED; DEPARTMENT REQUESTS ANY FURTHER INFO EMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR AND MOSCOW MIGHT HAVE OR ABLE TO OBTAIN ON MEETING- AS WE HAVE BEEN IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH U.K. ON MALACCA STRAITS ISSUE, REPORT MIGHT BE BROUGHT TO ATTENTION U.K. EMBASSY. EMBASSY LONDON MAY BRING REPORT TO ATTENTION FCO IF DEEMED APPROPRIATE.
- 3. FYI. ON 17 NOVEMBER U.K. EMBASSY WASHINGTON INFORMED US OF FOLLOWING INITIATIVE IT IS TAKING REGARDING STRAITS OF MALACCA. THE U.K. UNDERSTANDS THAT MALAYSIA, SINGAPORE AND INDONESIA MAY BE HOLDING A MEETING THIS MONTH TO CON-SIDER THE MALACCA STRAITS PROBLEM. HMG HAS INSTRUCTED ITS EMBASSIES IN THOSE THREE COUNTRIES TO URGE THE PARTICIPANTS TO REACH EARLY AGREEMENT AMONG THEMSELVES ON TRAFFIC SEPARATION SCHEMES AND UNDER KEEL CLEARANCE. (UKC) IN TIME FOR AN IMCO SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING IN FEBRUARY 1977. THE EMBASSIES WOULD ALSO STATE THAT THESE AGREEMENTS WOULD HAVE TO BE ENDORSED BY IMCO. IT WAS U.K. BELIEF THAT IF THE THREE COUNTRIES DID NOT ACT VERY SOON IT IS QUITE POSSIBLE THAT THERE WILL BE PRE-SSURE TO INCLUDE A REFERENCE TO UNDER KEEL CLEARANCES IN THE LOS TEXT AT THE NEXT LOS SESSION. WHICH THE U.K. THOUGHT WAS UNDESIRABLE. HMG FURTHER INSTRUCTED ITS EMBASSY IN TOKYO TO INFORM THE JAPANESE ABOUT THE INITI-CONFIDENTIAL.

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ATIVE, AND TO TELL THE JAPANESE THAT AFTER THE GROUP OF 5 MEETING (6-9 DECEMBER, PARIS) THE UK WOULD HOPE TO RESTRICT ITS APPROACHES TO THE THREE STATES TO THE QUESTION OF TRAFFIC SEPARATION SCHEMES AND UNDER KEEL CLEARANCES. HMG FURTHER ASKED ITS EMBASSY TO REASSURE THE JAPANESE THAT THE U.K. HAS NOT MENTIONED FIGURES ON UNDER KEEL CLEARANCE. THE U.K.'S PREFERENCE IS A 3 METER UKC, WHILE INDUSTRY COULD ACCEPT 3.5 METER FIGURE. U.K.

AGREED TO INFORM US OF THE RESPONSES IT RECEIVES TO ITS INITIATIVE.

4. DEPARTMENT IS IN PROCESS OF CONSIDERING MOST DESIRABLE SCENARIO AND TIMING FOR MEETINGS REGARDING STRAITS OF MALACCA AND OTHER LOS MATTERS AND WILL BE COMMUNICATING WITH EMBASSIES. STRAITS ISSUE IS ON AGENDA FOR GROUP OF 5 MEETING, 6-9 DECEMBER. END FYI. KISSINGER

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To: KUALA LUMPUR MOSCOW

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